MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Tippah Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

NEW HOPE CHURCH,

TIPPAH COUNTY, MISS.

September 26th, 27th and 29th, 1879.

OFFICERS:

ELD. M. P. LOWREY,.....MODERATOR.
J. J. GUYTON,.....TREASURER.
O. F. RAY,.....CLERK.

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JACKSON, MISS.:
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CAPITOL STREET,
1879.

MINUTES

OF THE

Tippah Baptist Association.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

TIPPAH COUNTY, MISS., September 26, 1879.

THE TIPPAH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION held its Seveneenth Annual Session with New Hope Church, commencing Friday before the fourth Sabbath in September, 1879.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder L. Ball, 1st verse, 1st chapter of II. Peter.

An intermission of one hour was given in which to partake of the plentiful refreshments.

At 2 o'clock, P. M., the Moderator, Elder M. P. Lowrey, called the Association to order, when the congregation joined with Elder E. Z. Simmons in prayer.

Elder H. F. Lipford and H. H. Ray were appointed reading Clerks.

Letters from the following churches were read, viz.:

Academy, Antioch, Ashland, Beulah, Bethlehem, Canaan, Central, Clear Creek, Falkner, Chewalla, Fellowship, Flat Rock, Hamilton, Harmony, Macedonia, Mt. Moriah, New Hope, New Bethel, Pleasant Hill (Tippah), Pleasant Hill (Benton) Pleasant Ridge, Prescott Springs, Ruckersville, Providence, Ripley, Shady Grove, Union and Unity.

New Bethel was dismissed from us by request at last Association.

Delegates with letter from that Church being present, wishing to unite again, were received by common consent.

The Association proceeded then to elect its officers, when Elder M. P. Lowrey, Moderator, J. J. Guyton, Treasurer, and O. F. Ray, Clerk, were re-elected.

Elder E. Z. Simmons and brother J. R. Rutherford acted as tellers.

On motion, the following committees were appointed:

Devotional Exercises—Deacons of New Hope Church, Elder L. P. Cossitt, brethren W. H. Horton and W. B. McKinstry.

Order of Business—Elder J. E. Rogers, brethren M. C. Selp and Thomas Jones.

Domestic Missions—Elder L. Ball, brethren D. E. McCollum and W. P. Nabers.

Foreign Missions—Elder W. E. Berry, brethren W. B. Jordan and N. G. Carter.

The Association adjourned until half-past 8 o'clock, Saturday morning. Prayer by W. D. Lancaster.

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SECOND DAY.

SATURDAY MORNING, September 27, 1879.

At half-past 8 o'clock, A. M., the Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder T. J. Vallentine.

The Minutes of Friday were read and approved.

The Committee to arrange the Order of Business made the following report, which, on motion, was adopted.

REPORT.

1. Read the Constitution, Abstracts of Faith and Rules of Decorum.
2. Call for Correspondence.

3. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
4. Call for Reports.
5. Appoint Correspondence.
6. Elect Executive Board.
7. Determine place of holding next meeting.
8. Elect ministers to preach Introductory Sermon.
9. Miscellaneous Business.
10. Call the Roll.

Respectfully submitted,
J. E. ROGERS, Chairman.

The Constitution, Abstracts of Faith and Rules of Decorum were read.

The following Correspondence were received:

Big Hatchie Association—Elder A. G. Parrott.

Tishomingo—Elder E. Z. Simmons.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended and the following Correspondence appointed:

Chickasaw Association—meets with Spring Creek Church, Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1880,—Elders M. P. Lowrey, L. Ball, W. E. Berry, J. D. Morton, and brethren J. W. Turner, J. F. L. Colston, and W. O. Rutherford,

Tishomingo—meets with Kossuth Church, Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1879,—Elders W. D. Lancaster, J. M. Horton, L. Ball, M. P. Lowrey, P. Skelly, and brethren Wm. Horton and A. W. White.

Oxford—meets the second Sunday in September, 1880,—Elders M. P. Lowrey, L. Ball, and brethren Lee, Farr and D. E. Gambrell.

Judson—meets at New Hope Church, 1880,—Elders H. F. Lipford, L. Ball, W. E. Berry, M. P. Lowrey and brethren J. H. Buchanan, W. R. Gurney and W. M. Horton.

Unity—meets 1880,—Elders J. A. Crook, T. J. Vallentine, and brethren J. D. Fortson and W. B. Jordan.

Big Hatchie—meets next fall, 1880,—Elders H. F. Lipford, and brethren W. B. Jordan, E. T. Doyle and J. M. Murphy.

Cold Water—meets Friday before the third Sabbath in October, 1879,—Elder M. P. Lowrey, and brethren D. L. Frazier and J. A. Kimbrough.

Mississippi Baptist State Convention—meets at Grenada, Thursday before the fifth Sunday in November, 1879,—Elders M. P. Lowrey, L. Ball, W. E. Berry, J. E. Rogers, and brother J. J. Guyton.

The regular order of business was then resumed, and the following committees appointed:

Education—Brother B. T. Kimbrough, and Elders J. E. Rogers and W. D. Lancaster.

Sunday-schools—Elders E. Windes, J. M. Horton, and T. J. Vallentine.

Publications—Elder L. P. Cossitt, and brethren H. H. Ray and W. R. Gurney.

Finance—Brethren H. B. Russum, J. M. Murphy and W. O. Rutherford.

The report of the Committee on Domestic Missions was read and adopted.

REPORT.

This term is used to distinguish between our efforts to preach the Gospel in our country and distant lands. The Scriptures do not indicate any other idea than the one we have expressed by the term Domestic Mission. While the Scriptures enjoin to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature, it is specified, "beginning at Jerusalem." Since God is no respector of persons, we see the propriety of beginning just where the Savior said. When that work was done, though the work was rejected, Paul said, "Seeing ye judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles." But there was no turning to the Gentiles until the Gospel had been preached to the Jews. In this turning to the Gentiles they began with those on the boundary lines, and thus the work continued to extend.

Thus we see it was Domestic Missions continually. In so far then, as we pass any portion of the country without preaching the Gospel to it. We have ignored the plan, and weakened our hands for the work. The Bible figures wisely;

suggests the plan of operation. The stone cut out of the mountain without hands was to fill the whole earth, not as we would infer by detached fragments, but by regular or gradual expansion. The leaven hid in the measures of meal, until all was leavened. These facts bring imperatively upon us the especial duty of supplying all the destitution, within the bounds of our Association and State. There are several communities in which there is no regular preaching by our denomination, perhaps some in which there is none.

The Gospel plan is to carry the Gospel to them. This work is given to the churches. For this purpose this Association was organized. Brethren, if we are too poor to do this work, or any part of it, your committee would recommend that we disband. If we can do this work, then let it be said of each church and each individual member of the churches, as it was of many, that we did what we could. The Macedonian cry is being heard; Shall we respond? Souls are perishing; Shall we give them the bread of life? The Master says, Go work to-day in my vineyard; Shall we say when our purposes are done, we will? or shall we say we go, sir, and go not? Your committee would recommend that the pastors of our churches be earnestly requested to preach to their respective churches on this subject. Respectfully submitted,

L. BALL, Chairman.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we recognize the work of the State Board in their efforts to supply the destitution within the State and that we continue to co-operate with them in that work.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was read and adopted. Interesting speeches were made by Elders M. P. Lowrey and E. Z. Simmons.

REPORT.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions submits the following report:

Never before in the history of missions were the prospects brighter, or the encouragements greater than to-day. Former years of toils and discouragements were years of preparation. That was the seed time, which is now ripening into a harvest. Truly, within the last few years the spread of the Gospel of Christ among the heathen is wonderful and encouraging. In 1842 five ports only were open in China.

Previous to that year scarcely any thing was done there. At that time our missionaries began the great work. In 1860 ten other ports were opened, offering greater opportunities. These our missionaries seized, and have been preaching Christ and winning hundreds to Him. Within the last few months fifty-two converts have been baptized at Canton, at Tung Chow and Shanghai, the work progresses finely, and the prospects are brightening.

The South Sea Islands were visited in 1842 by an Euglish Captain, who found the inhabitants the most degraded heathens, feasting upon human flesh. Soon the Gospel of Christ was preached there. In 1872 the same Captain returned to these islands and found a Christian people and churches where the cannibal feasts had been served. These Islands are supporting their own pastors, and are contributing more to Foreign Missions than our churches in this Christian land, and a much larger proportion of their inhabitants are Christian than with us.

The revival among the Teloogoos, which began in June, 1878, still continues. Up to May last, less than a year from the beginning, more than eighteen thousand converts were reported, and large numbers have been added since, and still its work goes on.

Our mission at Rome is encouraging indeed. The Chapel near by the Roman Vatican is now the property of Southeru Baptists. At several other important points in Italy the standard of the cross was raised and numbers are gathering around it. Brother David hopes to return with his wife to Africa soon, and our dear brother Simmons, his wife and Miss Steen long to go to their life-work; and another Mississipian, brother J. H. Eager, is under appointment to go to China as soon as means are sufficient to send him. Shall those who desire to go, be sent? The teeming millions of heathens call loudly unto us.

"Shall we, whose souls are lighted
With wisdom from on high,—
Shall we, to men benighted,
The lamp of life deny?"

Brethren, let us not turn a deaf ear to these calls. We recommend our churches to contribute to this good work. We also recommend them to subscribe for the "Foreign Mission Journal."

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. BERRY, Chairman.

On motion, the Association adjourned to hear a sermon by Elder E. Z. Simmons.

Afternoon Session.

The Association re-assembled at 2 o'clock, P. M. Prayer by Elder J. D. Morton.

The report of the Committee on Education was read and adopted.

REPORT.

The Committee on Education submit the following report:

Education is the training of the mind, leading it out, developing it. Nothing more tends to the elevation of the human race, and to fit man for the duties of life, and the enjoyments of eternity. It more than all things else gives distinction to man above the balance of the animal kingdom. The uninformed are easily deceived and imposed upon; to be informed is to be educated more or less.

Education is wealth; wealth that the moth and rust doth not corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal. It is an inexhaustible treasure that can be used without diminishing, lasts through time and is a standing capital we venture to remark in the great hereafter, the only wealth that can be taken, hence, education is power. All love power. It is power that use strengthens and time doth not destroy. Education in its most extensive sense reaches not the head alone, but takes in the heart, including both morality and Christianity. It is the first duty we owe to our offspring, and stops not with years of childhood. The ultimate grand object of all education is to know more of God, His work and His goodness to man. In this country at this time it is within the reach of all. The free school will give a start, and then if no better can be done, one hour a day at home will accomplish wonders. One hour a day will be three hundred and sixty-five a year equal to about forty-six school days—over two months a year, which in ten years nearly equals three school years, quite sufficient to lay a good foundation. By this plan or some similar one many have arisen from the humblest stations of life to the highest in the gift of the people. But schools are better and furnish advantages and opportunities in this line that all who can should use and improve.

To all those favored with the privilege of attending Acad-

emies and Colleges, it is with profound pleasure that we commend the Male and Female Academy at Ashland; the Female College, at Blue Mountain, Miss., and Mississippi College, at Clinton, and the Southwestern Baptist University, at Jackson, Tenn., and Mary Sharp College, at Winchester, Tenn., the only Female "University" we know of in the South. At all these schools education may be had in its purity and profundity, nor at any one of them is morality or the heart neglected.

We close where our esteemed brother who wrote last year's report began, by saying, buy wisdom and sell it not.

Respectfully submitted,
B. T. KIMBROUGH, Chairman.

Leave of absence was granted the following brethren: J. J. Guyton, N. G. Carter, J. E. Rogers, Wm. Starks, W. R. Gurney, E. Windes, E. Duncan, J. F. M. Colston, W. C. Vanderburg, C. N. McInturf, and W. H. Horton.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet at half-past 8 o'clock, Monday morning. Prayer by Elder J. E. Rogers.

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SABBATH EXERCISES.

The Sabbath services here were interesting. Elder E. Windes occupied the stand at 10 o'clock; Elder A. G. Parrott at 11:30 o'clock; Elder M. P. Lowrey at 2 o'clock, P. M., and at night, Elder W. D. Lancaster.

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THIRD DAY.

MONDAY MORNING, September 29, 1879.

Association met pursuant to adjournment at half-past 8 o'clock, A. M. Prayer by J. M. Horton.

The minutes of Saturday we read and approved.

Notice was received that New Prospect and Pisgah churches had dissolved.

The report of the Committee on Sabbath-schools was read, amended and adopted.

REPORT.

Some people may be opposed to Sabbath-schools or careless as to their support and propagation. But how this can be the case with reflecting and observing persons, we are unable to tell.

It is sad to think that some of the churches in the Association do not have Sunday-schools and this fact shows how negligent Baptists are; and we are made to feel sad indeed when we take into consideration the great risk we run, and the loss that we, as a denomination, sustain by this neglect. For want of proper religious instruction, just such as can be conveniently given in Sabbath-schools, our children embrace erroneous views, and are sooner or later lost to our denomination. Frequently they are never influenced by the Gospel of Jesus Christ simply because they have not had suitable training in early life.

Brethren, the condition and liabilities of our children imperatively demand of us earnest efforts in behalf of Sunday-schools. Some of the schools reported are prosperous. For this we are thankful.

But we need more schools—one in every neighborhood. We recommend the publication in the minutes the programme of the next Sunday-school Convention, and that the churches and Sunday-schools send delegates to this Convention. We further recommend that the churches send, in their letters to the Association, the statistics of their Sunday-schools.

E. WINDES,
J. M. HORTON,
T. J. VALLENTINE.

PROGRAMME FOR THE NEXT SUNDAY-SCHOOL CONVENTION.

We recommend that the Convention meet at Harmony Church on Friday before the fifth Sunday in November next, 1879.

SERMONS.

1. Introductory Sermon; by Elder E. Windes.
2. Proper observance of the Sabbath; by Elder L. Ball.
3. Sermon to the children; by Elder W. E. Berry.

ESSAYS.

1. N. S. Watson—Organization and general management of a Sunday-school.

2. Elder L. Ball—Self-control and perseverance in Sunday-school work are elements of success.

3. J. A. Kimbrough—Proper Sunday-school helps.

4. Elder J. M. Horton—Influence of Sunday-schools.

5. Elder L. T. Ray—Best method of exciting an interest in a Sunday-school.

6. Elder M. P. Cossitt—Best method of enlisting the Sunday-school children who cannot read.

7. Thomas Spight—Training children in intelligent Christian character.

8. Elder M. P. Lowrey—Importance of church co-operation with Sunday-schools, and the best method of engaging this co-operation.

9. J. E. Buchanan—The aims of the Sunday-schools.

10. J. F. Autry—Necessity of throwing proper influence around the young.

11. Elder J. D. Morton—Qualifications of a Sunday-school teacher.

12. Mrs. E. J. McDonald—Subject of her own choosing.

Respectfully submitted,
E. WINDES, Chairman.

The report of the Committee on Publications was read, amended and adopted.

REPORT.

Your Committee on Publications would recommend the following report:

Believing it to be the duty of our people to read, and that it is wrong to read any thing that will not have a tendency to make wise unto salvation and advance us in the spiritual life, we would recommend the Bible above all books, and we would urge the necessity of a more earnest perusal of its sacred pages.

As a religious paper, we would recommend THE BAPTIST RECORD, edited by Elder J. B. Gambrell, Jackson, Miss., and "The Baptist," edited by Elder J. R. Graves, Memphis, Tenn. And we urge upon every Baptist family the necessity of taking these excellent papers.

That we keep posted on the mission work, we recommend the circulation of the "Foreign Mission Journal," published at Richmond, Va.

As a Sunday-school paper, we recommend "Kind Words," and its lesson papers.

Respectfully submitted,
L. P. COSSITT, Chairman.

The report of the Executive Board was read and adopted.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Your Board begs leave to state that at the last Association, we were indebted $84.00, and only $30.00 pledged, and that for the present year's operation, an urgent request was made that pledges and contributions should be taken immediately by the churches so as to secure the payment of our indebtedness, and given a basis for future operations. After waiting a reasonable time, when not a single pledge came to hand, the Board decided as an expedient and an absolute necessity, to send out the Chairman of the Board to take pledges and contributions to pay for work done. This effort was a success. As far as the churches were visited, a liberal and ready response was made. Money was secured to pay out, and pledges enough to assure the Board in the promise of $50.00 at least for future work.

Brother L. F. Ray was employed to preach at Falkner; and here we wish to read his report, and leave its publication to your discretion.

The report of the Treasurer shows that after paying previous indebtedness, we have $50.00 in hand. Brother Ray having preached eight months, we are due him $38.66 cents, leaving $17:33 in hand.

Brethren, you have heard brother Ray's report of Falkner and the earnest appeal from the little church there; and that there is considerable destitution on our western boundary, as well as the eastern—more than one man could supply well. Will you have this destitution supplied? There are several communities in which self-sustaining churches could be organized by proper effort.

No pledges have been made. Your future Board will have the sum of $17.33 to operate on in supplying this vast destitution. Your Board believe by a proper effort, that an average of $10 at least to the church can be raised which will give us $300, with which a vast amount of good work could be done. Is this impression true? If so, brethren, in the face of Him who said, go work to-day in my vineyard, and in whose word it is said, "Except ye have the spirit of Christ, ye are none of His," and whose spirit was exhibited in those words that came from His own lips, "I must work while it is called to-day," we appeal to your high claim and pretension, and refer the whole subject to your decision.

Hoping and praying that you may lay a broader basis for the operation of your future Board, and that their wisdom and your liberality may accomplish a much greater work, we place the facts and situation before you.

Respectfully submitted,

L. BALL, Chairman.

REPORT ON MISSIONS:—LABOR DONE.

I first went to Falkner in January and continued until September. Preached monthly, visiting and attending as I did my other churches.

In July I held a meeting of nine days, assisted by Elders H. L. Finley, M. P. Lowrey, and Lonnie Bell. In all, I preached twenty-one sermons.

RESULTS—I believe the Baptist cause has been strengthened; since I went there we have moved our conference meettings from a school house near by to Falkner. The church has been encouraged, and eight added to her number.

CONDITION—Falkner is a promising little place, composed of good and intelligent people. They hear preaching by other denominations. A number of them are professors, but many are going the downward road to ruin.

OUTLOOK—Now is a good time for us to work; our number and interest are increasing. Fewer obstacles are in the way, and the general opposition is yielding from year to year.

NEEDS—It requires a strong man full of piety, love and sociality. The church needs to be helped, though if rightly taught, will do a liberal part. Respectfully,

L. T. RAY.

The following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, A petition has come from our little Mission Church at Falkner, to send them a good preacher, and they have promised to help to the extent of their ability in his support; and the cause there seems to demand the labors of an able minister; therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend the Executive Board to secure the service of Elder L. Ball, if possible; and if they cannot secure his services, then to secure the services of some other able minister.

Resolved, That the Executive Board be, and are hereby instructed to do what they can to supply the destitution in our bounds, and we pledge ourselves to sustain them in their efforts.

Resolved, That our thanks are due, and hereby tendered to Captain F. B. Winston, Principal of Blue Mountain Male Academy, for free tuition in whole or in part, to four of our young ministers, viz: J. C. Gadd, L. T. Ray, D. E. Gambrell, and E. L. Wesson.

Resolved, That the churches composing this Association, instruct their clerks thatin writing their letters to this Association, they confine themselves less to formality, simply giving the facts in regard to the church, and suggest, in most cases, the names of delegates and statistics of churches and Sunday-schools are sufficient.

The Treasurer made his report, which was agreed it:

J. J. **GUYTON, Treasurer.**

In Account with Tippah Baptist Association.

For the year commencing the 23rd day of September, 1878, and ending the 29th day of September, 1879.

RECEIPTS—FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

Sept. 27, 1879.

To cash collected through Elder L. Ball	$85 50
" Elder L. Ball	20 00
" Elder W. E. Berry	6 00
" Clear Creek Church	1 50
" Canaan Church	5 35
" Chewalla Church	2 65
" Hamilton Church	1 65
" Harmony Church	3 25
" J. M. Murphy	5 00
" Jno. Nabers	50
" New Hope Church	3 60
Total received	$135 00

Cr.

By cash paid Eld. W. L. Skinner through Eld L. Ball	$84 00	
To balance on hand	51 00	
		$135 00

STATE MISSIONS.

Mrs. F. A. White	$1 50
Miss E. L. White	1 50
Thomas White	1 00

Mrs S. H. Thompson	50
Mrs Bettie Bradford	50
" B. E. Taylor	50
" P. M. Rutherford	50
Miss Emily Rutherford	50
" Nannie Rutherford	50
J. R. Rutherford	20
Mrs M. J. Gadd	25
Joseph Smith	25
M. Gadd	1 00
J. E. Gadd	25
Pleasant Hill Church (Benton)	2 25
Mt. Moriah Church	5 50
W. P. Whitten	4 50
Miss C. I. Whitten	2 50
Academy Church	11 85
Union Church	16 80
Harmony Church	2 25
Beulah Church	1 50
To cash collected through Elder W. E. Berry	19 30
" collections through Elder H. L. Finley	21 60
" Clear Creek Church	4 00
" Flat Rock Church	2 50
" Canaan	5 30
" Chewalla	3 00
" Hamilton	1 15
Total received	$105 95

Cr.

By cash paid Elder J. L. Johnston through Elder J .D. Anderson	$8 95	
" paid Elder J. L. Johnston through M. P. Lowrey	10 00	
" paid Elder J. L. Johnston through Eld W. E. Berry	9 30	
" paid Elder T. J. Walne through Elder W. E. Berry	10 00	
" paid Elder H. L. Finley	21 60	
Total disbursed	59 85	
Balance on hand	46 10	
		$105 95

FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

To cash mite box collections Pleasant Hill Church	$1 40
" Pleasant Hill Church, Benton, on pledge	7 00
" Union Church	2 80
" Academy	13 50
" Ladies Missionary Society, Blue Mountain	29 60
" Flat Rock Church	2 45
" Asland	2 25
" Canaan Church	7 10
" Chewalla Church	85
" Hamilton Church	3 80
Public collection at Association	37 46
	$108 21

Cr.

By cash paid Elder E. Z. Simmons through Elder M. P. Lowrey	$4 70	
" paid Dr. H. A. Tupper through Elder M. P. Lowrey	11 60	
" paid Dr. H. A. Tupper through Elder M. E. Berry	27 35	
" paid Elder E. Z. Simmons through W. E. Berry	2 25	
" paid Elder E. Z. Simmons	62 31	
Total disbursed		$108 21

Amounts contributed to Ministerial Education for Bro. Egbert Wesson, at Blue Mountain, Miss., 1878 and 1879.

Elder M. P. Lowrey in board	$10 00
" L. Ball in board	10 00
" L. P. Cossett in board	10 00
" J. D. Anderson in board	10 00
J. J. Guyton in board	10 00
S. Gibbs in board	10 00
Mrs Janie Sanford in board	10 00
Elder W. E. Berry in board	2 50
" " " in books for L. P. Ray	6 00
	$78 50

Respectfully submitted,
J. J. GUYTON, Treasurer.

The report of the Finance Committee was read and agreed to.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, report the following amounts from the different churches for minutes, which we handed to the Treasurer:

Academy Church	$3 00	Ashland	$2 00
Antioch	1 00	Beulah	1 20
Bethlehem	1 50	Canaan	2 25
Chewalla	2 00	Clear Creek	2 00
Central	60	Fellowship	1 00
Flat Rock	2 40	Falkner	50
Harmony	1 60	Hamilton	1 60
Shady Grove	50	Macedonia	1 50
Mt. Moriah	1 50	New Bethel	3 35
New Hope	1 00	Pine Grove	1 50
Pleasant Hill (Benton)	1 75	Pleasant Hill (Tippah)	1 00
Pleasant Ridge	1 60	Prescott Springs	1 50
Providence	1 20	Ripley	3 50
Ruckersville	1 00	Union	3 00
Unity	1 00		
Total			$ 47 55

Respectfully submitted,

H. B. RUSSUM.

It was decided that the next session of this body be held with the Union Church, sixteen miles north of Ripley, on the Pirdy road, commencing Friday before the fourth Sabbath in September, 1880. Elder H. P. Lipford to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Elder W. E. Berry, Alternate.

The following resolutions were adopted.

Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt thanks to our faithful Brother Moderator, M. P. Lowrey, for the earnest manner in which he has presided over this Association. Also, to the Treasurer and Clerk for the faithful discharge of the duties incumbent on them.

Resolved, That we return our sincere thanks to the kind friends and brethren of this vicinity, and especially to the ladies for the hospitable manner in which they have entertained the delegates, messengers and visitors.

Resolved, That the Brother Clerk be requested to superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes of this As-

sociation, and he be allowed for his services, $10, and the minutes to be distributed as soon as possible.

The roll was called and absentees marked.

The Moderator then made some feeling remarks; a suitable hymn was sung, the brethren gave to each other the parting hand, and the congregation joined Elder L. Ball in prayer.

M. P. LOWREY, Moderator.

O. F. RAY, Clerk.

Our Seventeenth Annual Session of this body, has just closed, which was one of unusual interest, harmony and good feeling. All but one church was represented and many of the churches reported precious revivals of religion. Most of the churches have interesting Sabbath-schools and are waking up on this subject.

Brethren, we earnestly beg you to pray for us, and may the Lord bless you in every good word and work and in your efforts to promote the advancement and the cause of Christ.

M. P. LOWREY, Moderator.

O. F. RAY, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be called the TIPPAH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2. It shall be composed of persons who have been duly elected delegates by the respective churches belonging to this Union.

ART. 3. The delegates representing the different churches shall at the opening of each Association present the letters, specifying their appointments and also showing the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored and dead during the year, together with the whole number in fellowship.

ART. 4. Every church belonging to this body shall be entitled to three delegates until they number fifty members, and then one for each fifty over that number.

ART. 5. Churches of this Union failing to represent themselves for three successive meetings, shall be considered as dropped by this Association.

ART. 6. New churches may be admitted into this body, signifying their wishes by letter and delegates, provided they be deemed orthodox, and are willing to walk in fellowship with us.

ART. 7. This body shall have a Moderator, Treasurer, and Clerk, who shall be chosen at each annual meeting (by private ballot) so soon as letters from the churches are read and members' names enrolled.

ART. 8. This body shall have no power to adopt rules that shall infringe upon the independence and rights of churches, yet it may drop such churches as become disorderly, eitheir in doctrine or discipline.

ART. 9. This body shall have a fund for its expenses and churches may send up funds for Domestic and Foreign missions, or for the Bible cause. This Association shall take charge of such funds and appropriate them as designated by the churches.

ART. 10. If a church have a difficulty with another church, we advise her to take steps laid down in the eighteenth chapter of Matthew. And no difficulty between the churches will be entertained by this body, unless such steps shall have been taken.

ART. 11. When churches of this Union have gifts they deem worthy of ordination, we advise them to call on sister churches for two or more ministers to set apart such gifts to the work of the gospel ministry, according to the New Testament; and we advise all Presbyteries in the ordination of ministers and deacons, and constitution of churches, to be governed by the Abstracts of principles of this Association.

ART. 12. This Association will correspond with sister Associations of the same faith and order.

ART. 13. The minutes of this body shall be read and corrected, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rises. No session shall adjourn, unless in extraordinary cases, until it has finished all of its business.

ART. 14. The Association shall have an Executive Board consisting of the Treasurer and four other members, who shall be chosen annually.

ART. 15. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting, by a majority of two-thirds of the members present.

ABSTRACT OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

ART. 2. We believe in the Bible to be the word of God, and it is our only rule of faith and practice.

ART. 3. We believe in the total depravity of human nature, and that man is dead in trespasses and sin.

ART. 4. We believe that salvation is the gift of God by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and that sinners are justified in the sight of God alone by the "imputed righteousness" of Jesus Christ, which is unto and with all them that believe.

ART. 5. We believe in the Doctrine of Election—that God has from the beginning chosen us to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

ART. 6. We believe that the Holy Spirit accompanies the word of God in the salvation of man in answer to the prayer of Christians.

ART. 7. We believe in the final perseverance of the saints, and that all who truly believe shall be eternally saved.

ART. 8. We believe that baptism is immersion alone, and that none but true believers are proper subjects of the ordinance, and that none but regularly baptized and ordained ministers have a right to administer it, and that it is a prerequisite to the Lord's Supper, and all who come to the Lord's table must come according to the Lord's word.

ART. 9. We believe that a gospel church is a body of true believers in Christ, who have been regularly baptized upon a profession of their faith in Him, and that there are but two officers in the church, viz., the Elder or Pastor, and Deacon.

ART. 10. We believe it to be the duty of each church to extend and circulate the word of God as far as their means and ability will enable them.

ART. 11. We believe in the resurrection of the bodies of all men, and in a future and general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

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RULES OF ORDER.

ARTICLE. 1. The Association shall be opened by prayer.

ART. 2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the members present by private ballot.

ART. 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal, provided the appeal be made on the same day, but at no subsequent time.

ART. 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he arise to speak he shall call on some brother to take the chair.

ART. 5. All questions brought before the Association shall be introduced by motion, and, if seconded, shall be open for discussion unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays; and if a call for a division be made, it shall be decided by the members' rising.

ART. 6. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject or make personal reflections.

ART. 7. No person shall speak more than once upon any subject until all who wish to speak shall have had an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.

ART. 8. Every subject introduced for discusssion shall be first decided before another shall be offered, unless it be laid over by motion, with consent of the mover and Association.

ART. 9. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present, except in the reception of churches, then a unanimous vote shall be required. "But in no case shall one member or church prevent the reception of a church without sufficient cause shown, which shall be determined by a majority."

ART. 10. The names of members shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and the absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

ART. 11. The appellation of "brother" shall be used by the members in addressing each other.

ART. 12. Any member violating these rules shall be subject to be reproved by the Moderator, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

ART. 13. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority deem it necessary.

Statistical Table

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.
Academy	M. P. Lowrey and J. J. Guyton
Antioch	G. W. Burk
Ashland	E. Windes, H. F. Lipford and B. T. Kimbrough
Beulah	W. T. Rowan, D. L. Frazier and D. E. McCollum
Bethlehem	J. G. Gibson, M. Queen and A. B. Hicks
Canaan	R. S. Cox, E. T. Doyle and H. B. Russum
Chewalla	J. L. Anglin, J. F. M. Colston, W. C. Vanderburg
Clear Creek	Wm. Aldridge and W. B. McKenstry
Central	J. M. Street and M. C. Selph
Falkner	J. M. Cox and Wm. Henderson
Fellowship	W. E. Berry and E. Britt
Flat Rock	N. O. and J. R. Rutherford; T. White, J. M. Goolsby.
Hamilton	G. W. Floyd, J. L. Hutchins and L. B. Melton
Harmony	W. R. Gatlin and J. M. Murphy
Macedonia	L. P. Cossitt, L. Ball and E. L. Wesson
Mt. Moriah	Wm. Gurney, Wm. Starke and W. N. Stansell
New Bethel	J. R. Webb and A. H. Beck
New Hope	A. Cox, R. Pankey and J. A. Nabers
Pine Grove	J. B. Fuller and Thomas Duncan
Pleasant Hill, Tippah	E. Duncan, H. Sterlin and J. Q. Duncan
Pleasant Hill, Benton	J. W. Turner
Pleasant Ridge	S. R. Rich and W. K. Dowdy
Pocahontas	None
Prescott Springs	J. F. Sanders and W. D. Wilbanks
Providence	C. N. McInturf and J. Holcome
Ripley	J. E. Rogers and N. G. Carter
Ruckersville	Wm. Horton, T. Mathis and Thos. Jones
Shady Grove	Jas. Graves, J. Crump and J. Roach
Union	J. F. Ray, O. F. Ray, J. M. Horton, J. Garrett and H. H. Ray
Unity	T. J. Vallentine and W. B. Gordon

for the year 1879.

PASTORS.	POST OFFICES.	Day of meeting.	Rec'd by baptism.	Rec'd by letter.	Restored.	Dead.	Dism'd by letter	Excluded.	Total in fellowship.
M. P. Lowrey	Orizaba, Miss	1 & 2	.....	5	1	3	17	5	121
W. D. Lancaster	Silver Spring, Miss	3	4	3	...	1	3	3	50
L. Ball	Ashland, Miss	1	.....	3	...	2	.....	2	43
W. E. Berry	Beulah, Miss	1	2	2	1	2	6	1	76
M. Gillian	Ashland, Miss	4	.....	1	...	1	8	...	43
E. Windes	Canaan. Miss	1	1	5	...	1	.....	...	77
E. Windes	Holly Springs, Miss	3	11	2	...	...	.....	1	48
L. P. Cossitt	Dumas	4	3	4	...	2	4	...	84
W. E. Berry	Blue Mounttain, Miss	4	1	2	...	1	.....	...	28
L. T. Ray	Falkner, Miss	3	.....	10	...	1	3	...	23
Jas. Boswell	Molino, Miss	2	18	6	1	3	5	...	134
L. P. Cossitt	Blue Mountain, Miss	2	35	18	4	...	3	...	121
E. Windes	Black Jack, Miss	2	4	...	...	...	1	1	43
L. T. Bay	Walnut, Miss	2	5	2	...	1	4	...	68
L. P. Cossitt	Blue Mountain, Miss	1	5	2	...	1	13	1	145
L. T. Ray	Ripley, Miss	1	1	...	...	...	.....	1	39
U. A. West	Ubet, Tennessee	4	28	2	...	1	.....	...	67
L. P. Cossitt	Ashland, Miss	3	.....	3	1	..	6	4	79
.....	Pine Grove, Miss	3	2	1	...	2	.....	...	76
W. L. Skinner	Ruckersville, Miss	3	1	...	...	2	10	1	43
J. D. Morton	Ashland, Miss	4	11	...	...	...	4	2	78
T. J. Valentine	Saulsbury, Tennessee	1	4	2	1	1	3	...	59
.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	...	12
H. G. Spencer	Ashland, Miss	2	3	5	...	...	.....	...	26
W. D. Lancaster	Ruckersville, Miss	4	4	6	...	...	6	...	67
L. Ball	Ripley	4	3	2	...	...	3	...	52
M. P. Lowrey	Ruckersville, Miss	2	.....	...	...	...	5	...	30
J. D. Morton	Ripley, Miss	2	3	6	2	...	.....	...	66
L. P. Lowrey	Jonesboro, Miss	3	8	4	1	2	3	...	153
D. R. Bryant	Grand Junction, Tenn.	2	.....	...	1	1	.....	...	14
Grand total			157	96	13	28	107	22	1965

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

M. P. Lowrey,.....Blue Mountain.....Mississippi.
L. Ball..... " " ..... "
W. E. Berry..... " " ..... "
L. P. Cossitt..... " " ..... "
W. D. Lancaster.....Silver Creek..... "
P. Skelly..... " " ..... "
L. T. Ray.....Jonesboro..... "
E. Windes.....Ashland..... "
M. Gillian..... " ..... "
J. D. Morton..... " ..... "
J. H. Prescott..... " ..... "
H. F. Lipford..... " ..... "
H. G. Spencer..... " ..... "
J. E. Rodgers.....Ripley..... "
J. A. Crook.....Ruckersville..... "
J. M. Horton..... " ..... "
T. J. Vallentine.....Grand Junction.....Tennessee.
D. S. Foster.....U Bet..... "
C. F. Reed..... " ..... "

LICENTIATES.

E. L. Wesson,.....Blue Mountain, Miss.
D. E. Gambrell,..... " " "
J. M. Goolsby,.....Pine Grove, "
D. L. Fraizier,.....Beulah, "
E. L. Landers,.....Dumas, "
J. T. Cox,.....Ashland, "
J. F. Autry,..... " "
D. C. West,..... " "
M. T. Davis,.....Ruckersville, "
D. T. Rich,..... " "
L. A. Bell,.....Dumas, "

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EXECUTIVE BOARD.

L. BALL, J. J. GUYTON, J. F. RAY, SEN.

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